



## ECONOMIC INDICATORS

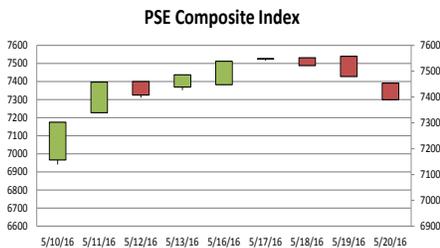
**6.9** ↑ **Q1 2016 Gross Domestic Product**

**1.10** ↑ **April 2016 Inflation Rate**

**-5.7** ↑ **Q1 2016 Consumer Confidence**

**7.5** ↑ **Q1 2016 Auto-buying Intention**

**46.75** ↓ **Daily Peso – Dollar Exchange Rate**



### GLOBAL WATCHLIST



**Taiwan inaugurates first female president**  
Tsai Ing-wen is sworn in as Taiwan's new female president and urges China to "drop the baggage of history" in an otherwise conciliatory inauguration speech.

[FULL STORY](#)

### MACROECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

#### Economy seen to expand more than 7 percent in Q2

After a strong 6.9-percent growth in the first quarter of this year, the country's economy is likely to accelerate its expansion further in the second half, as election-related spending boosted financial activities during the April to June months.

[FULL STORY](#)



#### Pernia ready to head Neda and lead 7% growth charge

Former Asian Development Bank (ADB) lead economist Ernesto M. Pernia is prepared to accept the position of economic planning secretary and National Economic and Development Authority (Neda) director general under President-elect Rodrigo R. Duterte.

[FULL STORY](#)



### FINANCIAL TRENDS

#### Banks book robust growth in resources

Philippine banks booked a double-digit growth in total resources in the first quarter amid external challenges arising from the impending further rate hike in the US, the negative rates in Japan as well as the slowdown in China.

[FULL STORY](#)



### INDUSTRY NEWS

#### Mitsubishi upbeat on Phl CARS program

Mitsubishi Motors Philippines Corp. (MMPC) remains confident it will get the approval of the government's Comprehensive Automotive Resurgence Strategy (CARS) program as it continues to pursue manufacturing operations in the country.

[FULL STORY](#)



### INTERNATIONAL

#### Mercedes-Benz also affected by Takata recall

Earlier this month, the US National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) disclosed the matter regarding the recall to be carried out by Takata.

[FULL STORY](#)



Mercedes-Benz